



Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH

Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

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Easter Bunny Express Arrives April 19

Saturday, April 19, from 11 a.m. to 4 pm.

Lots of fun activities await those holding the colorful, oversized, egg-shaped souvenir tickets. Each event activity is listed on the ticket as a “station.” These station stops include:

- **Wabbit-Twacks Station* – where you’ll take a six-minute ride on one of the festively-decorated trains —
- **Easter-Bunnyville* – to meet the Easter Bunny, where children will receive an egg-filled surprise and parents will have a great chance for photos —
- **Jack-Rabbit Junction* – to enter a drawing for some super prizes, including dozens of cuddly stuffed animals and new plants for your garden

(The drawings will held every hour, at 12 noon, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, and 3:45.) —

and

**What’s Up Dock* – to collect another *Easter Bunny Express* souvenir.

Ticketholders can choose between two train rides. Each train will operate on its own 1/3-mile-long route, the *EBX Thunderbunny* and the *Lop-Ear Local*. Or, ride both trains for just \$2 more (34-in. minimum-height requirement)

For those who would like to have lunch or an afternoon snack, museum volunteers will be serving Depot Dogs, smoked-sausage sandwiches, snacks, and cold beverages throughout the day.

Tickets are \$4 per person, adult or child. For those who will not be riding the

miniature trains, the cost is just \$3. Tickets are available in advance at the museum, or make your purchase through the Online Store and receive a discount on every ticket! Tickets will also be sold at the event until 3:30 p.m.

The 2014 *Easter Bunny Express* is sure to be another “hare-raising egg-



Bunny Leah Savage greets a youngster during 2006 event.



sperience” for the whole family. Hop aboard! (rain date: Sat., April 26). The museum will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 20.

Buy your tickets through the online store & save!

Scan the code at the right into your phone or type the following address into your browser:

<http://ow.ly/iKXT2>



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Museum Webpage Urges Train Use

We've added a new page to the museum website. "Trains For A Green Planet" represents our modest attempt to help inform the public about the environmental benefits of travel and transport by rail. You can visit the new page at: http://goletadepot.org/trains_green.php

Whether for passenger travel or hauling freight, trains have proven to be a highly efficient form of transportation. The result can be significant fuel savings and lower greenhouse-gas emissions.

At the museum, we are also working to save energy and reduce carbon-dioxide emissions by moving toward a fixed schedule of departures for the miniature-train ride. This method is gradually replacing the on-demand ride scheme that we've used since rides began at the museum back in the 1980s. Besides more accurately reflecting the way full-scale passenger rail systems operate, this new approach means lower engine hours, less fuel consumption, and more passengers & fewer empty seats per train trip.

Welcome New Members

Stephen McQuinn and Leslie Zomalt are new Active members. Steve and Leslie are also new guides-in-training in the museum's Trails & Rails program aboard Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* trains.

The latest additions to the Junior Engineers Club are Maggie Gallup and Wesley Grohman.

A hearty welcome to these new members of the museum!

Spring Fundraiser Support Crucial

The museum's 33rd annual *Spring Fundraiser* will be held Sat., May 17. The event features unlimited free train and handcar rides for all visitors (minimum-height requirements: 34" train; 48" handcar).

The *Spring Fundraiser* is a critical source of operating income. It produces about 10% of the money needed each year to keep the museum going. Everyone who contributes to the event not only co-sponsors the May 17 free rides, but also helps the museum stay healthy and strong.

Please help with the fundraising effort leading up to the May 17 event, either by obtaining pledges or by making a pledge of your own. Support this important museum fundraiser with your tax-deductible donation by using the card mailed with this newsletter. For a pledge form or more information, contact the museum at 805/964-3540 or send us an email at:

museum@goletadepot.org

Depot Book Sponsors Sought

The new digital edition of the book on the history of Goleta Depot is almost ready! One of the last remaining steps is to finalize the list of the book's sponsors.

If you've seen a draft copy of the book, you know that the acknowledgment of sponsors will be prominently placed at the front, filling the entire page facing the main title. Everyone who has sponsored the book project with a financial contribution will be listed there. This list of names will be similar to the donors list that appeared in the original depot book. That 1982 list is also being included in the new edition, on page 255. One difference is that the new list will be tiered, with the names of those contributing larger amounts appearing first. There will be three tiers of support: (1) \$250 or more; (2) \$100-\$249; and (3) \$50-\$99. All donors of \$50 or more will be acknowledged in the list. You may use your 2014 *Spring Fundraiser* donation to become a depot book sponsor. Just write "book sponsor" on the back of your pledge card.

The draft version of the book can be viewed and downloaded at:

<http://goletadepot.org/draftbook.pdf>

Groups Add To Free-Ride Calendar

Fairview Car Wash is making possible an afternoon of free miniature-train rides at the museum on Sat., May 3. They are also again sponsoring *Free Fridays*, more days of free rides running from January until Thanksgiving.

There will be free train rides for everyone attending *Goleta Railroad Days* on Aug. 9-10 this year, thanks to the support of **The Towbes Group**. Along with the **Bank of Montecito**, The Towbes Group also sponsored free train rides during last year's *Railroad Days* event.

Rotary Day returns on Father's Day, June 15, with free train and handcar rides. The event is made possible by the **Rotary Club Of Goleta Noontime Rotary**.

Rabobank is again sponsoring the museum's participation in the *Summer Reading Program of the Santa Barbara Public Libraries*, including a pair of free train rides for all children who complete program in recognition of their reading excellence.

Now, it's your chance to help sponsor a day of free rides at the museum. All you need to do is make a pledge to the museum's 2014 *Spring Fundraiser*. The event date is Sat., May 17 and there are more details in the article on the left.

COMING EVENTS

Fairview Car Wash Free Day, May 3
Spring Fundraiser, May 17
Rotary Day, June 15
Chocolate Lovers Limited, July 5
Goleta Railroad Days, Aug. 9-10
Depot Day, Sept. 28
Candy Cane Train, Nov. 28-Dec. 24

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